PRESS RELEASE PRESS RELEASE PRESS RELEASE

No. 1

Time: For immediate release

Date: Oct. 4, 1977

Subject: Formation of Gay Rights Group

For more information, Contact:

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Fifty-four persons joined in the formation of an organization to be called "Lehigh Valley Citizens Concerned for a Better Community" (C.C.B.C.). The organizing meeting was held on Wedensday evening at CONFRONT, 1130 Walnut Street. The purpose of the organization is to foster a more livable and healthy atmosphere within the community for the gay citizen.

Joseph W. Burns, local gay leader, acted as convenor of the meeting. In welcoming the participants, Burns noted the presence of "many non-gay friends, without whom," he said, "this group could not hope to achieve its goals."

Burns also announced that a mailing address had been established for the group. It is C.C.B.C., P.O. Box 4031, Allentown, Pa. 18105.

One of the first decisions of the new group was to seek larger meeting quarters in veiw of the fact that many found seating only on the floor.

The present status of gay rights legislation in Allentown was reveiwed and a strategy committee appointed to work out the long range and short term goals on rights legislation. In veiw of Mayor Dadonna's negative statements on gay rights and the reported attitude of Council, it was decided not to endorse any candidates in this election.

A discussion of gay support groups such as a gay switchboard, CR groups, or Gay Alchoholics Anonymous was tabled for further discussion.

Following this, [redacted] several [redacted] members presented a program entitled "Developing a Pro-Gay Rights Stance."

A Coffee Hour ended the evening.

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LGBT History Project
of the LGBT Center of Central PA

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Documents Online

Title: Press Release about CCBC Founding

Date: October 4, 1977

Location: LGBT-001 Joseph W. Burns Collection

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